2001-02. AT&C loss parameters capture total performance of the Utility. On the basis of available information, the Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) Loss of the State Power Utilities at the national level for 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 was 34.90%, 34.33% and 34.54% respectively.

(b) and (c) The Central Government has built a national consensus to focus on a time bound programme for reduction of Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses. In the Chief Ministers' Conference held under the chairmanship of the Prime Minister on 28th May 2007, a unanimous resolution was adopted which inter alia included the commitment of the States, with appropriate assistance from the Centre, to establish the necessary baseline data and information technology applications for energy accounting and auditing, and for ensuring a resolute elimination of electricity theft. In the Conference, the States committed themselves to achieve and sustain reduction in the overall AT&C losses in the next five years.

(d) The Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has intimated that considering the energy available for supply as 591986 GWh for the year 2005-06 and T&D losses as 30.42% for the same year and if the reasonable level of losses is taken as 15%, savings (15.42% of losses) in terms of installed generation capacity would be of the order of 14000 MW.

(e) In the future power demand projections worked out in the "Seventeenth Electric Power Survey of India", the value of T&D losses has been considered as 26.94% for the year 2007-08 and 21.97% by the end of Eleventh Plan.

Allocation of power from Simhadri Power Project-II

1420. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the request of the Andhra Pradesh Government to provide power generated from Simhadri Power Project-II to the State, so as to overcome the power crisis in the State;

(b) if so, whether Government has acceded to the above request;

(c) if so, how much power would be provided to the State from the project; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. Government of Andhra Pradesh has requested for at least 85% of power from Simhadri Stage-II (2x500 MW) of NTPC Ltd.

(b) to (d) The project has been approved by NTPC Ltd.'s Board as a Regional Power Station supplying power to all Southern States i.e. Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Union Territory of Puducherry. As such the allocation of power from this station shall be made as per guidelines for allocation of power from Central Generating Stations. Andhra Pradesh would be entitled to its share as per the following guidelines:

(i) 10% of the power to be allocated to the State in which the central thermal power plant is located (Home State);

(ii) 75% of the power to be distributed among the States in the region (including Home State) in accordance with the Central Plan assistance to, and energy consumption in, the States of the region for previous five years. The two factors having equal

weightage. The requirement of the Union Territories in the region is to be met through appropriate allocations; and

(iii) 15% of the power to be kept as unallocated at the disposal of the Central Government for meeting the urgent requirement of the individual States in the region from time to time.

Funds for power sector

†1421. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the funds earmarked for the development, maintenance, etc. of the power sector in the country during the Eleventh Five Year Plan;

(b) the target set for setting-up of new power plants in the country during this period and to enhance their capacity and production;

(c) whether Government proposes to set-up an independent National Energy Fund;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the positive steps Government is taking to improve power distribution system and to stop pilferage of electricity, so that power supply can be ensured?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) The Working Group on Power for the Eleventh Plan (2007-12) based on certain assumptions, has estimated a total fund requirement of about Rs. 10,31,600 crores for the power sector as a whole, which includes generation projects, transmission projects and distribution including rural electrification, human resource development, R&D etc. A capacity addition of 78,577 MW has been proposed for 11th Plan. According to information received from Planning Commission, the 11th Plan capacity addition target and outlay have not been finalized by it so far.

(c) and (d) According to information received from Planning Commission, the Expert Committee on the Integrated Energy Policy inter-alia recommended that National Energy Fund (NEF) should be set up to finance energy Research and Development (R&D).

(e) Electricity is a concurrent subject and the responsibility of distribution segment rests with the States. However, Central Government has launched Accelerated Power Development and Reforms Programme in the year 2002-03 in order to reduce aggregate technical and commercial losses, improving quality of supply of power, increasing revenue collection and improving consumer satisfaction. Under the investment component of APDRP, financial assistance was given to the States as additional central assistance over and above the normal central plan allocation, for strengthening and upgradation of sub-transmission and distribution system. Furthermore, to enable effective control on theft of electricity, the Electricity Act, 2003 has incorporated specific provisions for detection of theft, speedy trial of theft related offences and also for recovery of charges of electricity stolen. Theft of electricity has been explicitly made a congnizable offence. The distribution licensees have been empowered to disconnect the supply of electricity upon detection of theft. The penalty for repeated theft of electricity by large consumers has also been enhanced.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.